REMEDIAL SITE ASSESSMENT DECISION - EPA REGION I

EPA ID: CTD059831479 **Site Name:** NEW ENGLAND AIRCRAFT PLANT #1 (HOWMET PLANT #1)

State ID: NE Aircraft Plant #1

Alias Site Names: A.K.A. HOWMET CORPORATION
NEW ENGLAND AIRCRAFT PLANT #1
TRANSAMERICA DELAVEL

NPL/AK: 1.3

OTHER: 571716

City: FARMINGTON **County or Parish:** HARTFORD **State:** CT

Refer to Report Dated:

Report Type: SITE REASSESSMENT 001

Report Developed by: START

DECISION:

- ☐ **1. Further Remedial Site Assessment under CERCLA (Superfund) is not required because:**
  - ☐ **1a. Site does not qualify for further remedial site assessment under CERCLA (No Further Remedial Action Planned - NFRAP)**
  - ☐ **1b. Site may qualify for action, but is deferred to:**
- ☒ **2. Further Assessment Needed Under CERCLA:**
  - **2a. Priority:** ☐ **Higher** ☒ **Lower**
  - **2b. Other: (recommended action)** Low

DISCUSSION/RATIONALE:

An EPA contractor reviewed the last available report, contacted state and EPA representatives, and produced a fact sheet for this, and approximately 700 other Region 1 sites. This effort was entered into WasteLAN/CERCLIS as a Site Reassessment (code "OO"). For most of these sites, the entry date was August 2001. This copy is the Site Reassessment product of 2001. Subsequent changes to the site fact sheet may be made in order to keep the fact sheet current, however the revised fact sheet will only be available via the Region 1 website.

Site Decision Made by: DON SMITH

Signature: Don Smith 4-4-03 **Date:** 08/02/2001

EPA Form # 9100-3

New England Aircraft Plant #1
Farmington, Connecticut

CERCLIS No. CTD059831479
Site ID No. 0101652

The New England Aircraft Plant #1 (NEAP) property is located in the Farmington Industrial Park at 36 Spring Lane in Farmington, Hartford County, Connecticut. The property is currently owned and operated by Inco Engineered Products, Inc. There is a single-story 84,000-square-foot building on the property which is utilized for the production of jet aircraft engine blades and vanes. The 8-acre property corresponds to Lot No. 12B on the Town of Farmington Tax Assessor's Map Nos. 69 and 77. The property is bordered by the Hamilton Standard Company to the north; by the Connecticut Spring & Stamping Company [Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, Liability, Information System (CERCLIS) No. CTD001143007] to the south; by the West Branch of Scott Swamp Brook to the east; and by Spring Lane to the west. The surrounding area is zoned for industrial and residential use.

Prior to 1961, the property was undeveloped and used for agricultural purposes. Since 1961, the property has been occupied by an aircraft engine manufacturer. Processes include general machining; electro-chemical machining; degreasing; and non-destructive testing using a Zyglo fluorescent penetrant inspection process. Wastes generated on the property have included waste hydroxide sludge containing barium, chromium, nickel, and zinc; cutting oils; waste acetone; sodium chloride electrolyte solution with metal hydroxide sludge; anti-rust compounds; Zyglo solution rinsewater containing white mineral oil and kerosene; and waste petroleum naphtha. Anti-rust compounds and rinsewater from the Zyglo penetrant inspection process were discharged to the West Branch of Scott Swamp Brook until 1978. Subsequently, these wastes were discharged to two on-site septic systems until the facility was connected to the town sewer system later in 1978. Waste hydroxide sludge was formerly placed on a parking lot to be picked up by a waste hauler for off-site disposal until the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (CT DEP) issued an order in 1980 stating that sludge must be stored in a concrete bin for temporary containment. Chloroethane and 1,1,1-trichloroethane (1,1,1-TCA) were formerly used on the property for parts cleaning prior to 1991. Waste chloroethane and 1,1,1-TCA were reportedly transported off site for disposal. In 1981, CT DEP received a complaint from a NEAP employee that over the course of 2 to 3 years, 3,000 to 5,000 gallons of salt brine solution containing sodium hydroxide, hydrochloric acid, and cyanide had been dumped onto an unspecified gravel area and had leached into the ground; this charge has not been confirmed. In 1988, analytical results of waste oil samples collected by National Oil, a contracted waste hauler, indicated the presence of 1,1,1-TCA, tetrachloroethylene (PCE) and trichloroethylene (TCE). NEAP asserted that PCE and TCE were not used or stored on site. However, Farmington Police Department and CT DEP conducted an investigation and concluded that illegal dumping of materials containing PCE and TCE into the on-site waste oil storage tanks had occurred. In 1993, soil contaminated with nickel near the parking lot was reportedly excavated and removed from the property.

Previous investigations of the property have included: a 1988 Preliminary Assessment; a 1990 Screening Site Inspection (SSI); investigations conducted by HRP Associates, Inc. between 1991 and 1994; a 1997 Site Inspection Prioritization (SIP); and a 2000 investigation competed by Environmental Resource Management.

Approximately 78,800 residents are served by public and private drinking water supply wells located within 4-radial miles of the property. The nearest public drinking water supply well is located 0.28 miles northwest of the property. The nearest private drinking water supply well is located approximately 1.1 miles northwest of the property. Groundwater in the overburden is present on the property at an average depth of 12.5 to 27 feet below ground surface, and groundwater flow direction is to the east/southeast. Analytical results of groundwater samples collected from on-site monitoring wells indicated the presence of PCE, TCE, 1,1,1-TCA, 1,1-dichloroethane, and inorganic substances (barium, chromium, nickel, sodium, and chloride). Based on the absence of detection of chlorinated VOCs in soil samples collected by HRP personnel during the installation of on-site monitoring wells, HRP concluded that VOCs were likely attributable to off-site sources. Chromium, sodium and chloride are attributable to historical releases of sodium chloride electrolyte solution from on-site brine/sludge tanks. Based on available data, no known impacts to nearby groundwater drinking water supply sources have been documented.

Stormwater runoff from the property is expected to flow east to on-site drainage ditches that discharge to West Branch of Scott Swamp Brook. Additional Clean Water Act-protected surface water bodies located along the downstream pathway include Scott Swamp Brook, Pequabuck River, and Farmington River. There are no surface water intakes located along the 15-mile surface water pathway. Additional sensitive environments located within 15-downstream miles of the property include 3 miles of wetland frontage, fisheries, a State wildlife management area, State-listed endangered species habitats, and a State-listed species of special concern habitat. Analytical results of sediment samples collected from the West Branch of Scott Swamp Brook in 1989 indicated the presence of copper and nickel, which are attributable to the property. Based on analytical results, a Clean Water Act-protected water body and wetlands have been impacted.

There are 88 workers and no residents on the property. Approximately 2,739 people reside within 1-radial mile of the property. There are no schools or day-care centers located within 200 feet of the property. Property access is unrestricted. Analytical results of surface soil samples collected in 1989 indicated the presence of calcium, chromium, copper, nickel, sodium, and several semivolatile (SVOCs) that are also polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). Potential impacts to nearby residential populations and on-site workers are unknown.

An estimated 88,793 people, 2,000 acres of wetlands, and seven State-listed endangered/threatened/special interest/ special concern species habitats occur within 4-radial miles of the property. No laboratory qualitative air samples are known to have been collected from the property. Based on available data, no impacts to nearby populations or sensitive environments are known or suspected.

The last known action at the property was a 1999 CT DEP-approved Environmental Land Use Restriction regarding an area beneath the eastern wing of the building.